

CVUU's committees to be Reconstituted in June

Unitarian Universalists are expected to contribute some of our time, talent, and treasures to one another and our communities. Our churches survive and thrive when they have a good committee structure—when church members and friends give time and talent as needed. CVUU is lay led again this coming year, which means that our volunteer committees are crucial for us to survive and flourish.

Nine CVUU “standing committees” have been formed; others may emerge on an ad hoc basis as we progress through the year. In 2008-09, for instance, we had ad hoc financial and stewardship committees.

Below are descriptions of the standing committees, which will be reconstituted in June and be fully activated when the new fiscal year begins on July 1. If you're interested in helping each of these parts of the church function more effectively, please add your name to the list posted on the bulletin board at the front entrance, or e-mail your interests to Jo Leary, our office assistant (jo.cvuu@gmail.com).

You do not have to be an official member of CVUU to serve on any of the following committees:

Worship Committee

Worship Committee Role: This committee helps support our lay leader for Sunday presentations and organizes services for weeks the lay leader is not in the pulpit; provides support for visiting presenters; provides Worship Associate(s) for Sunday services; coordinates music with pianists and other musicians; prepares the Order of Service (Bulletin) each week; coordinates “Additional Services” (Friday night services); updates the newsletter and website calendars with service dates and topics.

Religious Exploration Committee

RE Committee Role: This committee plays a crucial role in supporting religious education/religious exploration by and for CVUU children and adults. Under the guidance of a committee chair, who is a member of the board of trustees, the committee works with the DRE (Director of Religious Exploration) in choosing and/or developing curricula, assisting parents and teachers in making children's RE meaningful, and helping promote and develop adult RE opportunities.

Social and Environmental Action Committee

Social & Environmental Action Committee Role: This committee informs and motivates the congregation and community in areas of social and environmental action and justice; finds ways and means to rectify social injustices; sponsors and supports groups organized to deal with social problems; develops informed leaders to foster a just and peaceful world; coordinates volunteers to help members and friends of CVUU when in need through our “Caring Committee”; administers the CVUU Humanitarian Outreach Fund to provide financial aid to people in need in Cache Valley; administers the Isabel Katana Social Justice Award and coordinates other events and activities through the Isabel Katana Center for Social and Environmental Justice. The committee's “Green Group Outreach” program attempts to make CVUU a model green program by utilizing solar energy and lowering our carbon footprint.

Membership Committee

Membership Committee Role: This committee provides greeters for every Sunday service; produces a “Welcome” packet for guests; has guests sign the visitors' book; makes follow-up calls and sends “thank

you for visiting us” notes to guests and sees that they receive the CVUU newsletter (if they so desire); arranges for dialogue/orientation for guests and new members; coordinates (with lay leader) new member recognition service and signing of membership book; works with Fellowship Committee to arrange for Circle Dinners; prints short bios of new members in newsletter; documents weekly attendance count; designates a person to update directory annually.

Fellowship Committee

Fellowship Committee Role: This committee helps establish and maintain a sense of community by organizing dinners and other multi-generational social events; maintains supplies for all fellowship activities; cleans up after CVUU social events; organizes volunteers to make coffee prior to Sunday services and clean up afterwards, and maintains supplies.

Building & Grounds Committee

Indoors: The “indoors committee” is responsible for monthly housecleaning and weekly set-up of Gessaman Sanctuary for worship services; assures that supplies needed for cleaning are in stock; promulgates building and facilities usage and lock-up procedures; oversees rental of building space.

Outdoors: The “outdoors committee” maintains the yard, gardens and fountain; mows the lawn and removes snow on a timely basis; conducts routine maintenance & repairs; sees that trash and recycling bins are put out and collected.

Committee on Ministry

Committee on Ministry Role: This committee serves as a liaison between the lay leader and the congregation. It supports the lay leader in her ministerial and other roles, and guides her by reflecting the congregation’s spiritual interests and any concerns about worship services. The committee reports to the board when requested or when it feels it is appropriate.

Caring Committee

Caring Committee Role: This committee assists our lay leader with pastoral care of friends, members and occasional outreach to the public. Its role includes, but is not limited to, visits and conversations with, and other outreach for, those in need; maintaining and using a list of community references and sources that can provide care; maintaining the “Minister’s Discretionary Fund”; and other services as determined by the committee and lay leader.

Nominations Committee

Nominations Committee Role: According to our by-laws, this committee is responsible for identifying and lining up candidates for election to the Board of Trustees. The committee works with the board to recognize the upcoming openings (there are board openings each year), and then recruits candidates to stand for election at the annual meeting. Members of the nominations committee cannot be on the CVUU board while serving on this committee.